Maple syrup taking its sweet time

Local producers waiting for thaw to tap the sap

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Millions of dollars tied up in college's Saudi campus

metro EXCLUSIVE

Pulling out of deal early could cost Algonquin in penalties

Emma Jackson
Metro | Ottawa

Algonquin College could be on the hook for millions if it decides to pull out of Saudi Arabia.

The school's international vice president, Doug Wotherspoon, said Algonquin still owes about $5 million on a $7.3 million performance bond they secured to set up a men-only campus in Jazan, Saudi Arabia in 2013.

The bond is collateral for an equipment loan staff used to buy furniture, lab equipment and other start-up necessities, and the school is paying it down little by little each year.

Wotherspoon confirmed the college would lose more money if it caved to pressure.

"There would be a cost of cancelling a contract or reneging on a contract," he said.

However, "we don't have any intention of doing that," he said.

Wotherspoon said Algonquin expects to make $4.4 million by the close of its five-year contract in 2018 — a far cry from original projections of $25 million a year, which was supposed to make up for funding shortfalls from the provincial government.

Algonquin's Saudi Arabia campus opened in September 2013 hoping to welcome about 2,350 students a year by 2015.

But staff quickly discovered their enrolment estimates were off and that many students weren't prepared for the English course work.

$1.4M

The campus isn't the money maker as it was supposed to be — **it lost $1.4 million last school year** — and critics have questioned the partnership given Saudi Arabia's abysmal human rights record towards women and political dissidents.

Many dropped out, which has been problematic given the school's profits are tied up in performance indicators like pass rates and employment six and 18 months after graduation.

According to the campus's 2013 operating agreement, Algonquin can get up to 100 per cent of a "performance bonus" depending on its yearly results, although the specifics of that arrangement were redacted under freedom of information laws.

The school has posted losses for the first two years, Wotherspoon said. It also missed out on $500,000 last year because it was only given a "satisfactory" academic rating.

Only one of the 37 international campuses in Saudi Arabia received a "good" rating last year.

As for human rights abuses, Wotherspoon said, offering education to Saudi Arabian students is more likely to help that problem than snubbing the country entirely.

"We believe in the power of education to create prosperity in communities and to create critical thinkers," he said.

Wotherspoon said an all-female campus is "still on our radar" and will be discussed at a board of governors meeting on Monday.

The college withdrew a bid to open a female college in Saudi Arabia in 2014.

A man on stilts performs at Confederation Park on Sunday.
JOE LOFARO / METRO

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World leaders condemn North Korea for launching long-range rocket. **World**

5 TOPICS AT OTTAWA CITY HALL THIS WEEK

A new health centre may encroach on a 20-year-old community garden, and the city calculates the cost of health care for Syrian refugees.

LUCY SCHOLEY METRO

1 O'Connor House teardown?

The fate of an Ottawa Community Housing building in Lowertown will, once again, be back before the built heritage sub-committee on Thursday. The committee could force the social housing provider to fix up O'Connor House (to the tune of about $250,000) or allow them to tear down the 1880s derelict building and install a mini park. City staff are against the demolition plan.

4 Medical costs of Syrian refugees

Ottawa Public Health is tracking the health-care costs of Syrian refugees. Once the agency calculates the total dollar figure, the medical officer of health will seek one-time provincial funding to help pay for the immunizations, dental care and infection control. As of Jan. 27, Ottawa Public Health had immunized about 260 newly landed refugees. The city's board of health will consider this report Monday.

2 Health-care overhaul

The city's health board will weigh in on a provincial plan to fold municipal health units into regional authorities. In a report going before the board on Monday evening, Ottawa Public Health said it welcomes "enhanced integration" but cites risks, including a loss of municipal funding and local partnerships.

3 New library news

It's still early in the new central library plans, but interested developers have pitched nine possible locations. Five of those sites are west of Bronson Avenue, two are within the "traditional downtown" between Bronson and Elgin and the other two are east of the Rideau Canal. These are outlined in a report of the request for expressions of interest (REOI) — the first phase of the procurement process — that will go before the library board on Tuesday. A more detailed site analysis will go before the library board next month.

5 Carlington health centre

Carlington gardeners are seeking new soil because a health centre expansion plan risks encroaching on their community garden. It seems like the "health hub" proposal – a facility of 42 seniors' apartments and medical services – will pass the planning committee hurdle on Tuesday. It already has the support of federal and provincial funding. That, and the non-profit group that runs the 20-year-old garden is already trying to find a new location.

The perfect date: Crafted, calculated, co-ordinated

ROMANCE

Planner uses friends, local businesses to make a winner

Haley Ritchie
Metro | Ottawa

If you're looking for romance in Ottawa, Kait McNamara can help. She isn't a matchmaker; you'll have to figure that part out on your own. She isn't a couples' therapist, either. Her job is to plan the perfect Ottawa date.

"Every single date is different," she explains. "And it's completely customized."

To start, couples fill out an extensive survey on her website, A Date By Kate, detailing how they met, what they like, and what they don't like.

Sometimes the consultation goes further: third-party best friends are interviewed to make sure McNamara really understands her lovebird clients.

From there, she begins to brainstorm ideas and calls local businesses.

On one of her dates — organized for a couple that loves Froot Loops — they headed to Ottawa's Oh So Good bakery and café. There they got to create a custom cheesecake under the watchful eye of owner Peter Elmarji. They named it "Loopy in Love" because it was covered in Froot Loops.

"It was super-cheesy and adorable," said McNamara.

"It was a really nice experience," said Elmariji, who set up a "work station" for the couple in the back of his Westboro café. "They must have enjoyed it because they were here for a few hours."

Most of McNamara's dates depend on the co-operation of local businesses. In addition to Oh So Good, she's partnered with Sidedoor restaurant, World of Maps, The Loft and Iron North Fitness.

Kait McNamara runs a date-planning service in Ottawa called A Date By Kate. CONTRIBUTED

> **Life gets busy, you end up going to the same 'dinner and a movie' spot because it's easy, but that's exactly why I exist.** Kait McNamara

"It's great to help someone who is starting something new. Not a lot of people know about Kait, and it really works well with my business," said Elmariji.

By day, McNamara is a marketing manager in Ottawa but she spends her free time planning the dates. The lowest-tier for a full day starts at $300, which could include cost of meals, drinks, tickets for shows and her planning services. The entire itinerary is a surprise for both parties.

The idea for her A Date By Kate service started when McNamara's two friends were getting married. As a wedding gift, she planned them a special day to take place after all the excitement of the wedding and honeymoon.

She said she loves coming up with the ideas, but as she delved deeper into the dating game (she's been planning romance for almost two years) she's started reading about the psychology of it as well.

"Children are so enthusiastic about the little things in life, and as an adult it's my mission to get people to almost think like a kid again. Love each other in the moment," she said.

And love doesn't have to be about chocolates, diamonds and roses.

One of McNamara's dates was planned for couple of self-identified chatterboxes. So she offered them a challenge over their dinner date: spend five whole minutes in silence.

They made it only 120 seconds.

"They were like, 'We did it for two whole minutes, but then we needed to talk,'" she said with a laugh. "But it's just the fact that they tried it. Even that is something new. It's something fun."

"Life gets busy, you end up going to the same 'dinner and a movie' spot because it's easy, but that's exactly why I exist. You have to shake things up and get thinking outside the box," she said. "And you should never stop dating your significant other."

PARA TRANSPO

Debt buildup may trap riders

Emma Jackson
Metro | Ottawa

As one Para Transpo customer scrambles to pay $430 before March 1, the city says never again will clients build up that much debt.

Gloucester resident Faith Girvan — who is legally blind and relies on a wheelchair and crutches to get around — is one of more than 1,300 accessible-transit customers who received letters this January asking them to pay outstanding fares or lose their service.

Some had bills as low as $1.85. Others, like Girvan, owe hundreds of dollars that are nearly impossible to pay all at once on a fixed income.

The bills stretch back more than a year in some cases and were allowed to build up as customers used "no-fare slips" instead of money to ride the bus.

It's causing backlash. Some feel it's petty of the city to come calling for less than a toonie, while others feel the timeline is too tight for those with massive bills.

In any case, it's not going to happen again. OC Transpo's Pat Scrimgeour said going forward the system will deal with no-fare slips on an ongoing basis.

"If somebody has an amount owing, we'll remind them of that next time they call for a trip," he said. With a debt on file, clients can only take one more round trip before they have to settle up or be suspended.

Scrimgeour said 275 clients have paid, while 12 others have had their fees waived and another 12 turned out to be dead.

The rest will need to pay by March 1, something Girvan says is impossible. She said Para won't help her pay down the $430 slowly.

"They said we can't do anything about it," said Girvan. Even with a payment plan, Para told her she'd still be suspended March 1 until the debt was reduced to less than $50.

Faith Girvan, right.
EMMA JACKSON/METRO

ONTARIO BUDGET

Catholic-public board merger no longer on radar

Once sitting high atop a list of Ontarians' most popular budget ideas, a suggestion to amalgamate Catholic and public school boards has taken a precipitous nosedive to 1,715th on a budget consultation website.

Midway through the Liberal government's online consultation period, during which Ontario residents could post what they wanted to see in the upcoming budget, the amalgamation idea was riding high.

The original poster suggested amalgamation but wrote that, ideally, the government should stop funding Catholic education as "religious education should be private."

The idea's No. 1 status was not meant to be.

Users could vote ideas up or down, and the drop to dead last began soon after news stories about the website and its most popular ideas were published on Jan. 12.

The Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) sent out a plea to its database, calling on people to "speak up in opposition" on the website to amalgamating school boards and eliminating Catholic school funding, giving suggested talking points.

An average of one person per day was voting the idea down until that point, but Ministry of Finance figures show that on Jan. 13, it received 98 down votes, followed by 266 and 211 the next two days.

The opposition parties are pretty sure the ideas from the website won't actually make it in the budget. They're convinced it's all but written already.

But Kathy Burtnik, president of the OCSTA, said it was important for all views about Catholic school funding to be known.

"We have a responsibility to those families that choose to send their kids to our schools," she said.

However, though the once-most-popular idea on school-board amalgamation was successfully down-voted — it had negative 507 votes, compared to the next least-popular idea of funding graduate education for international students, with negative 66 votes — there are dozens more ideas aimed at eliminating funding for Catholic schools.

Finance Minister Charles Sousa has already nixed that idea, as well as the second-most popular idea of stopping the partial sale of Hydro One. The government is also unlikely to reverse a seven-per-cent fee cut imposed on doctors last year, as the most-popular idea urges.

CONCLUSION

Finance Minister Charles Sousa has declined to say exactly when he plans to introduce the provincial budget — last year's was tabled near the end of April — but the opposition is speculating it will be earlier this year.

There were 1,715 ideas submitted online, 700 in-person consultations at 20 sessions across the province and two telephone town halls held.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Whalesbone already has a devoted following on Bank Street for its quality oysters and other seafood. COURTESY THE WHALESBONE

Street makeover on the menu

RESTAURANT OPENING

The Whalesbone is headed to Elgin Street with high hopes

David Sali
Ottawa Business Journal

While many people would say he's joining an Elgin Street restaurant scene that is in the midst of upheaval, Joshua Bishop prefers to think he's arriving right on time for a revival.

The co-owner of The Whalesbone on Bank Street says his new location, slated to open this spring in the former @Home housewares store at 231 Elgin St., is just one more addition to a restaurant district that is evolving for the better.

"Perfect timing," he says. "There are lots of great things happening on (Elgin) Street. The more the merrier."

One of Ottawa's most popular dining and entertainment strips made headlines recently when venerable nightspot Maxwell's at 340 Elgin announced it was closing its doors for good on Jan. 17 after 30 years in business.

Although it once thrived as a combination nightclub and restaurant, Maxwell's had simply run its course as a go-to destination for food and drinks, says retail analyst Barry Nabatian of Shore Tanner & Associates.

"It definitely needs renovation," he says of the second-floor bar.

"It needs different colours, a different concept and it has got to attract different demographics. They have to change their image."

Despite dining out more than anyone else in the country — the average Ottawan spends about $1,300 a year on food at restaurants, pubs and coffee shops — residents of the capital are tightening their belts, says Nabatian, and Maxwell's is simply the latest casualty.

The ground-floor restaurant changed its menu about a year ago, but even that wasn't enough to stave off the inevitable, he adds, noting the establishment's failure is part of a disturbing trend for Ottawa eateries.

"Things just did not work out and it's really not surprising," Nabatian says.

"The reason is not that anything was necessarily wrong with them. The reason is that people are just not going out as much.

"Most restaurants in the city of Ottawa are not doing well. It is quite a challenge for them and quite a number of them are near bankruptcy."

But there are exceptions, he notes. Restaurants that focus on vegetarian and organic offerings — "anything that is kind of new and has got cachet" — seem to be doing fine.

He thinks the establishment that will soon replace the restaurant portion of Maxwell's, vegetarian and vegan eatery Pure Kitchen, will find a niche on the street. It will be Pure Kitchen's second location in the city.

"In Ottawa, we do not have that many good vegetarian restaurants," Nabatian says. "The location is right for them. It will be quite a novelty and I think that at least for a couple of years it will do well, if and only if they keep their prices in check."

Although The Whalesbone serves mainly seafood, he also expects it to do well at its new location because it already has a devoted following on Bank Street for its quality oysters and other seafood as well as its rustic atmosphere.

"They have developed a very good reputation and I think that people are quite receptive to what they have," he says.

Bishop says there is no magic formula for The Whalesbone's success, crediting his staff for their loyalty and dedication.

But whatever he's doing, it's clearly working.

His Bank Street restaurant, which he owns with his wife Cheri, has been earning rapturous reviews from foodies since it opened in 2005. At just 900 square feet, it has a capacity of only 30 and often has to turn away as many as 300 customers a week.

Bishop says he'd already started thinking about expanding last summer after he found out the parking lot next to The Whalesbone wholesale outlet on Kent Street was being sold, leaving it a questionable spot for handling deliveries.

Longtime customer Mike Fleming, the landlord at 231 Elgin, told him he might have some space opening up in his building.

"We went and had a look at it, and here we are," Bishop says.

The new location will be 3,600 square feet, about four times the size of his Bank Street establishment, with seating for 90.

The menu will likely feature a bit more red meat, he adds, and the site will also be the new home of The Whalesbone's wholesale operations.

After seeing years of "slow and steady" growth, he's not complaining. But he says he also sees better days ahead for the city's restaurant industry as a whole.

"The current economy is obviously not the best one, but history shows it will always go up again," he says.

> They have developed a very good reputation.
> Retail analyst Barry Nabatian on The Whalesbone

$ MONEY

Big spenders
The average Ottawan spends $1,300 per year on food at restaurants, pubs and coffee shops. But residents are tightening their belts due to the economy, according to analyst Barry Nabatian of Shore Tanner & Associates.

COURT

Police ask judge to toss $1.2M lawsuit

Joe Lofaro
Metro | Ottawa

The Ottawa Police Service is asking a judge to toss out a $1.2-million lawsuit against one of its officers who allegedly harassed the owner of an Italian restaurant in the ByWard Market multiple times for almost five years.

In a statement of defence to a civil suit filed in Ontario Superior Court on Sept. 18, 2015 against an Ottawa police constable, the police force says the officer was justified in making repeated visits to Mezzanotte Italian Bistro to check the restaurant's liquor license and conducting a 2012 traffic stop on the owner, Antonio Canonico.

But Canonico claimed in his suit that Const. Marco Crapigna would repeatedly enter the restaurant, sometimes with fellow officers, under the guise of checking the liquor license, which was valid, but would never demand to see it. Crapigna and the Ottawa Police Services Board are named as defendants in the lawsuit.

Canonico also alleged "intimidation of patrons and staff at the restaurant, stopping patrons once they had left the restaurant and circling the restaurant in a marked police cruiser."

None of the allegations in the statement of claim or the statement of defence have been proven in court.

"The Ottawa police state that they were required or authorized by law to do what they did in this matter, in the administration or enforcement of the law as peace officers," Ottawa police said in a statement of defence filed on Jan. 18.

"The Ottawa police state that at all material times they acted on valid legal grounds and/or reasonable and probable grounds and were justified in doing what they were required or authorized to do, pursuant to provisions of the Criminal Code and the Liquor License Act."

Canonico also alleged "malicious prosecution" in his lawsuit after Crapigna stopped him while making an illegal left turn in his Jaguar on May 19, 2012 and charged him with failing to provide a breath sample. Canonico denied consuming alcohol that night.

On Feb. 17, 2015, a judge acquitted Canonico of the charge.

Canonico's emotional and psychological pain and suffering relating to legal fees after being charged with a criminal offence is "exaggerated and remote," says the statement of defence.

Warm weather still means waiting for maple syrup

CLIMATE CHANGE

Beginning of tapping season unpredictable, says producer

Haley Ritchie
Metro | Ottawa

While maple producers in Vermont and Maine already have sap flowing, maple syrup producers around Ottawa say they are still biding their time waiting for the perfect thaw.

"It's one of the most difficult decisions maple syrup makers have to make in the season is when to tap," said Shirley Fulton-Deugo, from Fulton's Pancake House and Sugar Bush. "Every year it's different."

In the northeastern United States, an early thaw meant some large-scale farmers began collecting the early sap run.

Unusually warm weather saw Ottawa temperatures climb to 8 C last week, but it's still too cold to start drawing sap for most of Ontario's small and mid-range producers.

"We still have a lot of winter in front of yet," said Ray Bonenberg, spokesperson for the Ontario Maple Syrup Producers Association. "If I see a cold trend coming I'm going to hold back. Tapping your tree when it's too cold is no good."

> **It's one of the most difficult decisions maple syrup makers have to make in the season is when to tap.** Shirley Fulton-Deugo

Bonenberg said frozen trees can crack if tapped too early, taps can dry out prematurely and a cold spell could mean freezing and damage to lines.

One day of warm temperatures isn't enough to get going — ideal temperatures are slightly above zero during the day and slightly below zero at night for a consistent number of days.

Bonenberg said most maple producers are always analyzing and recording the weather, which has a complicated effect on sap from year-to-year.

Researchers at Sir Wilfrid Laurier University have determined that climate change over the past 40 years has affected the sap season, but only by pushing the season earlier a few days on average.

Fulton-Deugo said while she's not tapping yet either, the start of the season overall has become more unpredictable.

"There used to be a usual time — we'd be ready by the third week of March. That used to be the usual, but now there is no unusual," she said.

She said the earliest Fulton's have tapped is the very end of February.

Both farmers said even though Ottawa-area trees might not be tapped yet, there's still plenty of prep work to do before mid-February and March, especially at sugar shacks that invite the public to visit like Fulton's.

"Everyone talks about tapping, but there's lots of work to do in the sugar camp in the building where the syrup is produced," she said. "There's lots of work ahead."

WINTERLUDE SKATEWAY CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE Avery Walsh, 8, adds colourful ice cubes to a mosaic ice sculpture in Confederation Park Sunday afternoon. Much to the chagrin of skaters itching to get back on the Rideau Canal Skateway, the popular Winterlude attraction remained closed throughout the weekend. The National Capital Commission says the world's largest skating rink will be closed to the public until further notice due to adverse weather conditions. In a notice on its website, the NCC said, "Rideau Canal Skateway crews will continue necessary operations to reopen the Skateway as quickly as possible, as weather permits." JOE LOFARO/METRO

CRIME

Man charged over parking lot thefts

Ottawa police say they've arrested a man who had been breaking into cars in underground parking lots.

Police say the alleged thefts happened on Dec. 3, 2015 in the underground parking lot of apartment buildings along the 1200 block of Donald Street in Vanier.

Steven Wooff, 41, is charged with seven counts of theft from a vehicle. four counts of mischief under $5,000 and two counts of breach of conditions.

He also faces charges of break-and-enter and possession of a stolen motor vehicle. Police allege these acts took place the same day as the parking lot thefts.

Wooff was arrested over the weekend and appeared in court Saturday.

Police say he has been remanded into custody and will appear in court again this morning.

Police say DNA played an important role in his arrest. METRO

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Twins die tobogganing

CALGARY

Brothers were known for laughter, jokes and stunts

Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

Jordan and Evan Caldwell were inseparable.

You couldn't miss the red-haired twins — they did everything together, always full of jokes and laughter, according to classmate Kira Nelson.

The Caldwell twins died after they and six other boys smacked into a gate while using their personal toboggan after-hours on the bobsleigh track at Canada Olympic Park early Saturday morning.

"They were the only guys that could find an arbitrary award in pulling off a stunt like that," Nelson said. "The only boys who could think of a stunt so stupid. And that's why everyone loved them.

"They came up with these dumb ideas, and made it out safe. This time it didn't work out."

The Caldwell family. **Evan (far left) and Jordan (far right)**, their sister Katie and parents Shauna and Jason. CONTRIBUTED

Their deaths have shocked friends, family, and their school and church communities.

The boys grew up in Arbour Lake, Alta. sharing a bunk bed in a small navy-blue room.

It's where they learned to ride their bikes for the first time.

Liliane da Silveira remembers the boys when they were young and said they were easygoing and obedient. "They were all about sports," she said. "They were very good kids."

Evan and Jordan's parents, Shauna and Jason, sold the home to da Silveira about 15 years ago.

The family moved because they wanted to be closer to their church, Rocky Mountain Calvary Chapel.

"They were super nice. They were very good parents," she said. "I was extremely in shock when I heard the news. It's like I could feel their souls inside the house."

> **"I don't think one could live without the other.**
> Kira Nelson

Da Silveira's son, Vinny, went to school with Jordan, who was president of student council at Westmount Charter School.

"There was something about him," said Vinny, who's in Grade 9. "He just had the confidence to go out and speak. I wouldn't be surprised if a lot of people admired him, like 'I want to be like Jordan one day.'"

Both boys were heavily involved in their schools, receiving high grades, starting clubs and mentoring younger kids. They were also Hill Ambassadors at the Canada Olympic Park during the last winter season.

"Everyone who remotely knew them is absolutely devastated they passed," Nelson said. "But there's some comfort in knowing they died together — I don't think one could live without the other."

JIAN GHOMESHI

Emails critical in trials

Jian Ghomeshi
THE CANADIAN PRESS

The unearthing of 13-year-old emails in an attempt to discredit a woman accusing Jian Ghomeshi of sexual assault underscores the growing importance of "digital debris" in criminal and civil trials, experts say.

Lawyers and technology experts say the Internet has allowed for extensive records to be kept of one's movements and comments unlike anything in the past, but most people still don't consider the potential permanence of their words when firing off a message.

The amount of electronic data, records and documents introduced in trials can be "overwhelming," said David Fraser, an Internet and privacy lawyer.

An entire industry called e-discovery or digital forensics has sprung up to assist lawyers in cases where deeper online digging is needed. THE CANADIAN PRESS

STUDY

Stigma worst barrier for sex workers leaving the industry

When Cheryl's manager discovered the 38-year-old used to work in the sex trade, she says he joked that a name plate on her desk read "pubic relations."

Kayla, 61, also was in a new job when, she says, a police officer informed a colleague she had formerly been a "prostitute and a junkie." She lost the job and saw no option but returning to the sex industry.

Both women encountered the degrading treatment when they attempted to leave sex work for new occupations, an obstacle that a recently published study calls the "whore stigma." The women were among 22 Vancouver sex workers interviewed for a peer-reviewed article in the Canadian Review of Sociology.

The women, whose names were changed in the study to protect their identities, reported challenges from name calling to violence, identifying the stigma they faced as the most challenging barrier to leaving the sex trade, said researcher Raven Bowen, who studied criminology at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, B.C.

"It's like there's no escape from this," said Bowen, whose study was published in November.

"Sex workers would expect from predators this hate speech and this rage and all that stuff. But they wouldn't necessarily expect it from a co-worker five years after they transitioned out of the industry."

The participants, ages 20 to 61, were either no longer working in the industry or leading "dual lives" by holding two jobs, concealing each from the other. None of them had worked on the streets.

Bowen gathered their stories in 2012 in a period after Ontario's Superior Court struck down key prostitution laws.

Making the career switch is like shifting from playing jazz music to dentistry, said Bowen. Former sex workers also feel compelled to keep secrets, she said, which makes accessing resources, education and job opportunities more difficult. THE CANADIAN PRESS

A study interviewed 22 Vancouver sex workers, who reported challenges from name-calling to violence. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

STATISTICS CANADA

Data-search system faces further delays

An $18-million project to make it easier to sort through reams of data from the coming census has been beset by delays and uncertainty that the three-year project will be done on time.

Called the "new dissemination model," the project is designed to make it easier for visitors to the Statistics Canada website to organize, read and play with the data statistical agency collects, be it census or jobs data, or anything else the agency measures.

The end idea is to create a more interactive experience online instead of pages of static data tables, and also to simplify and standardize how information is presented.

It was all supposed to be ready in time for February 2017, when Statistics Canada releases its findings from this year's census.

StatsCan and Shared Services Canada, the government's central information-technology department that is building the new system, said the project has been delayed, but couldn't say by how long or if it could still be completed on time. THE CANADIAN PRESS

INQUIRY

Sobering centre planned in Vancouver

Health officials in Vancouver are planning a new "sobering centre" seven years after it was recommended by an inquiry into the death of a severely intoxicated homeless man, but some advocates and family members say it still falls short.

Vancouver Coastal Health has begun planning a facility where police could take people who are drunk or high on drugs instead of a jail cell. It will be attached to a new detox centre, to replace an aging building that already contains a small sobering unit of about five to 10 beds.

> **"It looks like the government is trying to put a Band-Aid on.**
> Peggy Clement

A stand-alone sobering centre was recommended in 2009 after an inquiry into the death of Frank Paul. In 1998, the 47-year-old aboriginal man was refused entry to Vancouver's jail and police dumped him in an alley, where he died of hypothermia within hours.

"I am disappointed to hear about the building not being a stand-alone," said Peggy Clement, Paul's cousin. "It looks like the government is trying to put a Band-Aid on just to say that they did something on the inquiry recommendations."

Advocates say Vancouver Coastal Health has taken too long to act on the recommendation and chronically addicted people may not want to go to a sobering centre inside a detox facility. But the health authority says it's best to unite addiction services under one roof.

Andrew MacFarlane, a director of mental health and substance use at Vancouver Coastal Health, said he hopes the new site will be built within the next five years and will include sobering, detox, research and outpatient withdrawal management.

When a person arrives at the sobering centre, a nurse will assess that person immediately and monitor them over a period of about 24 hours. Once sobriety sets in, the opportunity will be offered to go into more intensive programming, he said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

North Korea rocket test condemned

UNITED NATIONS

UN Security Council calls meeting to discuss launch

For North Korea's propaganda machine, the long-range rocket launch Sunday carved a glorious trail of "fascinating vapour" through the clear blue sky. For South Korea's president, and other world leaders, it was a banned test of dangerous ballistic missile technology and yet another "intolerable provocation."

The UN Security Council responded at an emergency meeting Sunday by issuing a statement strongly condemning the rocket launch.

North Korea, which calls its launches part of a peaceful space program, said it had successfully put a new Earth observation satellite, the Kwangmyongsong 4, or Shining Star 4, into orbit less than 10 minutes after liftoff. It vowed more such launches.

The launch follows North Korea's widely disputed claim last month to have tested a hydrogen bomb. Washington and its allies will consider the rocket launch a further provocation and push for more tough sanctions.

The UN Security Council held a closed-door emergency meeting at the request of the U.S. and Japan. The statement approved by all 15 council members underscored that launches using ballistic missile technology, "even if characterized as a satellite launch or space launch vehicle" contribute to North Korea's development of systems to deliver nuclear weapons.

Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Stephane Dion issued a statement condemning the rocket launch, calling it "unwarranted, irresponsible and dangerous behaviour."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TAIWAN EARTHQUAKE

Rescuing survivors

As anxious families waited nearby, rescuers on Sunday painstakingly pulled more survivors from the remains of a highrise apartment building that collapsed a day earlier in a powerful earthquake that shook southern Taiwan and killed at least 32 people.

The government in Tainan, the worst-hit city, said that more than 170 people had been rescued alive from the 17-storey building, which folded like an accordion.

The Tainan Disaster Emergency Center estimated 118 people were still trapped at the site, many at the bottom.

Earthquakes frequently rattle Taiwan, but most are minor and cause little or no damage, though a magnitude-7.6 quake in central Taiwan in 1999 killed more than 2,300 people. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

1 Search-and-rescue workers try to locate a victim at a collapsed building on Sunday in the southern Taiwanese city of Tainan. LAM YIK FEI/GETTY IMAGES

2 A rescue worker leaves the site of a disaster zone in Tainan. The fall of one highrise, built in 1989, raised questions about whether its construction had been shoddy. ANTHONY WALLACE/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

3 Residents line up for water as the earthquake damaged water pipes near the Wei Kuan complex in Tainan. SAM YEH/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

4 Local aid workers comfort a man at a temple across from a building destroyed in the earthquake. WALLY SANTANA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EGYPT

Slain Italian student suffered 'inhuman' violence: Autopsy

A second autopsy on the body of an Italian found slain in Egypt reveals that the doctoral student suffered "inhuman, animal-like" violence, Italy's interior minister said Sunday as he pressed Egypt's president to fully co-operate with the criminal investigation.

Rome prosecutors have opened a murder investigation into the death of Giulio Regeni, whose battered corpse was found near a highway outside Cairo nine days after he was reported missing in the Egyptian capital.

Italy's ambassador, who viewed the body a few hours after Egyptian authorities told Italy about its discovery on Feb. 3, had already said the victim showed signs of a brutal beating and torture.

A second autopsy was performed late Saturday in Rome after the body was flown to Italy, concluded that Regeni died after a cervical vertebra was broken, said Alessandra Ballerini, a human rights lawyer appointed by the young man's family to follow developments in the case.

Interior Minister Angelino Alfano said on a Sky TV interview show Sunday that he still hasn't gotten his breath back after learning the shocking results of the latest autopsy.

The Italian news agency ANSA, citing unidentified sources close to the Italian coroners, said the findings led to the conclusion that Regeni's neck was twisted or struck, breaking a vertebra and leaving him unable to breathe. It said he suffered various other fractures as well.

"We had to view the results of the autopsy," Minister Alfano said, referring to Italian authorities. Regeni suffered "something inhuman, animal-like, an unacceptable violence," he said.

Alfano pressed Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sissi to ensure co-operation.

"I am convinced that it is in the interest of el-Sissi to work together," Alfano said. "No one can bring Giulio back to life, but (to) bring the truth to the surface will perhaps be able to save more lives." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fimuicello's Mayor Ennio Scridel leads a candlelight procession to honour **28-year-old student Giulio Regeni** in his hometown of Fiumicello, Italy, Sunday. PAOLO GIOVANNINI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ANSWERS

Human rights lawyer Alessandra Ballerini said full autopsy results won't be available for a few days. Testing of tissue and fluid samples will help determine how long after Regini's Jan. 25 disappearance he died.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Clinton makes stop in Flint

Taking a detour from New Hampshire's campaign trail, Hillary Clinton said Sunday that a water crisis in a Michigan city was "immoral" and demanded that Congress approve $200 million in aid to address the community's battle with contaminated water. The Democratic presidential hopeful made a visit to Flint, Mich., an unusual stop for a candidate trailing in polls against rival Bernie Sanders in the first primary state. Clinton hopes to use a narrow Iowa vote as a springboard for primaries later this month.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Professor, college part after religious comments

A professor at a Christian college who asserted Christians and Muslims worship the same God will leave her post, the school near Chicago announced.

In a statement posted on Wheaton College's website, the school and Larycia Hawkins said they "have reached a confidential agreement under which they will part ways." The statement didn't go into details. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SYRIAN REFUGEES

Turkey at 'capacity,' says deputy premier

Turkey has reached the end of its "capacity to absorb" refugees but will continue to take them in, the deputy premier said Sunday, as his country faced mounting pressure to open its border to tens of thousands of Syrians who have fled a government onslaught.

The United Arab Emirates, meanwhile, joined Saudi Arabia in saying that it was open to the idea of sending ground troops to Syria to battle the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), raising the possibility of even greater foreign involvement in the five-year-old civil war.

Turkish authorities say up to 35,000 Syrians have massed along the border, which remained closed for a third day on Sunday. The governor of the Turkish border province of Kilis said Saturday that Turkey would provide aid to the displaced within Syria, but would only open the gates in the event of an "extraordinary crisis."

Deputy Prime Minister Numan Kurtulmus told CNN-Turk television that Turkey is now hosting a total of 3 million refugees, including 2.5 million Syrians.

"Turkey has reached the end of its capacity to absorb (refugees)," Kurtulmus said. "But in the end, these people have nowhere else to go. Either they will die beneath the bombings and Turkey will ... watch the massacre like the rest of the world, or we will open our borders."

Kurtulmus said some 15,000 refugees from Syria were admitted in the past few days, without elaborating. He put the number of refugees being cared for on the other side of the border at 30,000.

He did not explain why the Turkish border gate at Oncupinar, opposite the Bab al-Salameh crossing in Syria, was being kept closed.

On Saturday, the European Union urged Turkey to open its borders, saying it was providing aid to Ankara for that purpose. EU nations have committed 3 billion euros ($3.3 billion US) to Turkey to help refugees, part of incentives aimed at persuading Turkey to do more to stop thousands of migrants from leaving for Greece. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

3 million

Turkey is currently hosting 3 million refugees inside its borders, 2.5 million of which are from Syria.

U.S. state eyes Quebec power

NEW ENGLAND

Massachusetts needs clean energy to meet green goals

Tapping into Canadian hydropower is hardly a new concept in energy-starved New England. But Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker's proposal to authorize long-term contracts between utilities and hydropower producers is being viewed in some quarters as a potential game-changer for the region.

The move is not without doubters, and the question of how to deliver Canadian hydro on a large scale remains unanswered. Among several plans yet to secure final approval are the $1.4 billion Northern Pass project, designed to bring 1,090 megawatts of Hydro-Quebec power through New Hampshire into southern New England and a 1,000-megawatt transmission line beneath Lake Champlain in Vermont. A single megawatt can power up to 1,000 homes.

Without a hydropower infusion, Baker contends his state won't meet its 2020 target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 25 per cent from 1990 levels. Beyond that goal, the governor and other regional leaders point to a practical need to replace electricity generation that has or will soon disappear from the energy landscape.

> **That would be the ultimate lose-lose.**
> Charlie Baker on being forced to fossil fuels

Massachusetts, the region's most populous state, has the biggest energy appetite and typically accounts for roughly half the typical weekday demand.

If the lost power isn't replaced, Baker warns, the state and region will fall prey to an uncertain global energy market and be forced to rely more on carbon-producing fossil fuels.

"That would be the ultimate lose-lose," he said. "Unpredictable, high-priced and less green than our current situation."

The legislation would direct electric distribution companies in co-operation with the state to solicit competitive bids for long-term deals with hydroelectric producers. While current law permits hydropower procurement, administration officials believe it's unlikely to occur without the incentive of longer contracts.

Matthew Beaton, Baker's secretary of energy and environmental affairs, said Connecticut and Rhode Island already authorize long-term procurement but were waiting for Massachusetts to take a similar path.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ELECTRICITY NEW YORK TOWN PLANS TO GO OFF GRID Supervisor David Fleming stands on a landfill in Nassau, N.Y. The upstate New York town is planning to pull its municipal buildings off the electric grid after repeatedly finding itself without power for days during a string of storms last year. It intends to develop energy independent "microgrids" to power its six buildings with solar, wind, landfill gas and battery storage power by 2020. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GERMANY

Canada's Maple Bank shut

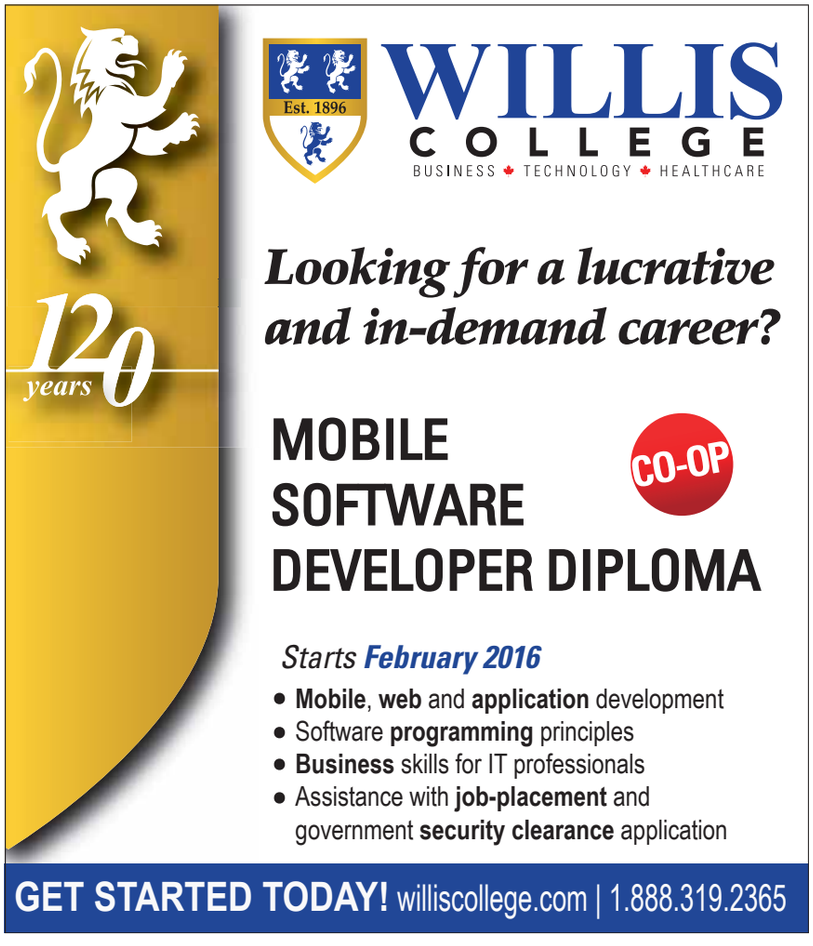
German authorities have ordered the closure of Maple Bank after it was investigated for alleged tax evasion and money laundering.

Maple Bank is part of Canada's Maple Financial Group.

The Federal Financial Supervisory Authority said Sunday that it has forbidden Maple Bank from making payments or selling assets "due to impending financial over-indebtedness." The watchdog, known as Bafin, also banned the bank from taking customer payments other than those made to repay debts. It says the bank, with assets of 5 billion euros ($7.72 billion) and liabilities of around 2.6 billion euros ($4.02 billion), will have to put aside funds to cover tax payments. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

$4.02B

Maple Bank's liabilities, according to German regulator Bafin.



SOUTH AFRICA

New urban craze gets people ready for work's daily grind

As dawn breaks over a Johannesburg park, some 300 people dance in silence, some dressed as Batman, Spiderman or Wonder Woman. Others are in tutus, black catsuits or animal "onesies". Many have masks and painted faces.

This is "Secret Sunrise" — a new urban craze in which people gather outdoors in the early morning to express themselves to a soundtrack played through headphones.

Later in the day, they will toil at office desks in South Africa's economic capital, or be students attending lectures, but for a short time they embrace a less reserved way to live.

"The point is to get people working towards something that makes the daily grind a little bit less boring," said Cheryl Hudson, who has a job in project finance when she changes out of her purple dance outfit.

"We have it in the week to try to transform the day because after an experience like this, you connect with people.

"You get to be a different version of yourself, you go forth, and you are not grumpy when you get into the office.

"It is an opportunity to go wild, to be ridiculous," said Jamie Beron, one of the organizers of the fortnightly event, which follows similar dawn dances in London, Los Angeles, Tokyo and other cities.

Secret Sunrise dancers in Johannesburg. AFP

The venue of each "Secret Sunrise" is revealed only the day before to build suspense, and tickets costs 100 rand (about $8.70).

The last event in Johannesburg was held on a roof terrace and was a '70s theme that became a tribute to the late David Bowie.

At the end, all the dancers hold hands and form a large circle before dispersing.

A sweaty Captain America — better known during work hours as Travis Kruger, a 31-year-old used-car salesman — contrasted the experience to a nightclub or rave.

"That is alcohol and smoking. It is healthy here. There is no aggressiveness," he said.

"With your earphones, you pretty much block out everything. … I have to go to work after this. Last time I did this, I had the most amazing day at work, so it is just a good start to the day." AFP

metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Monday, February 8, 2016

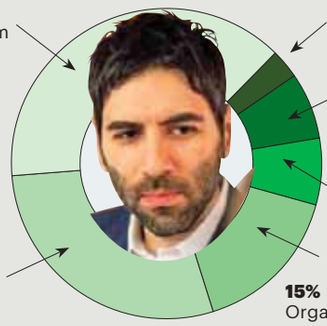
Metro POLL

Roosh the Rude

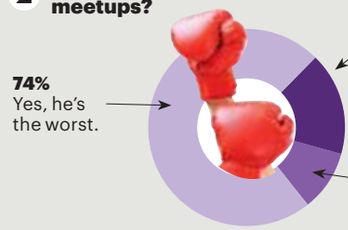
Visit metronews.ca to have your say.

Daryush Valizadeh, a.k.a. Roosh V, is known for advocating that rape be legalized on private property, musing about how unfortunately difficult it would be to take the vote back from women, and publishing charming blog posts such as "5 Reasons to Date A Girl With An Eating Disorder" (they're "rarely fat" and "eager to please"). His planned, and since cancelled, meetups across Canada were met with opposition from feminists and leaders at all levels of government.
We asked our readers what should be done about Roosh spreading his vile views, especially those that may not quite rise to the level of hate speech. Should we avoid giving the Rooshes of the world attention? Or crack down?

1 What was the best way to respond to Roosh V's planned meetups in Canadian cities?


39% Ban him from the country
3% I support Roosh V
7% Other
7% Ban him from public property
15% Organize a protest
29% Just ignore him. It's his right to free speech

2 Are you happy Roosh V cancelled his Canadian meetups?



3 What kinds of public speech should be restricted by law?

22% Incitement to violence
17% White supremacy/racism
16% Sexism/misogyny
15% Homophobia
15% Dangerous misinformation (i.e. quack cancer cures)
10% Nothing but very narrow exceptions (i.e. threats, slander).
3% Nothing! I'm a free-speech absolutist
2% Other

Banning sexism, homophobia and white supremacy won't end those systems.

Everyone is entitled to freedom of speech. But when it's about something so illegal and scary, there should be consequences.

Raise money for anti-violence programming for every man who shows up at the meetups.

WE ASKED Metro readers

A little mush can't ruin the charm of the canal

COLLINS' CAPITAL
Steve Collins

Now, it seems, is the Winterlude of our discontent, our near-annual collective festival of fretting about the state of the Rideau Canal Skateway, during which it becomes the solemn duty of the news media to hassle helpless NCC spokespeople about the weather — and what they plan to do about it.

We should be used to this by now. The canal has been thwarting our best laid plans since its construction, when it forced poor Colonel John By back to London to answer for cost overruns that drove the total bill for the six-year job to a shocking £822,000.

Sure, the Skateway's Jan. 31 closure left us rolling out the soggy gray carpet, jazzed up with festive orange caution horses, for Winterlude visitors, but it's less of a buzzkill now that skaters have the refrigerated backup of the Rink of Dreams.

And the mushy conditions didn't seem to put a damper on Saturday night's festivities. Mild weather swelled the crowd for a thumping loud concert in Confederation Park.

Still, if we're a bit self-conscious about our bad ice days, it's understandable. The canal is one of the city's premiere special effects. Visitors remember it.

It played a role in helping us snag Alexander Shelley from Nuremberg to conduct the NAC Orchestra. Just after his appointment was announced in 2013, he recalled an earlier visit to Ottawa with his wife Zoe:

"I think … it was fate. It was about 27 degrees, the sun was shining the whole time, we walked along the Rideau Canal and we looked at each other and we said 'This is a pretty nice place to live."

("She hasn't been here in January-February," he added. "So if you don't mention that while we're here I'd be very grateful.")

For comedian Steven Wright, who returns to Ottawa for a Feb. 21 performance at Centrepointe Theatre, the first memory he conjures of the city is of skaters on the canal.

"The skating thing looks like a card from the '50s, like a greeting card. It's beautiful," he said.

When my civic hosting jitters kicked in and I started reflexively apologizing and expressing hope the cold would return by the time he arrived, he said, "Oh, I don't skate."

Neither do I, really. And the skater's disappointment is the local's relief. If the Skateway's having a good day, I'm usually trying to keep the wind from snapping my ears off. I wasn't so worried about the ice quality last week as exulting at the sight of the sun.

It's not just about you and me, of course. Like so many of the Ottawa's wonders, we get to live with the canal, but it belongs to Canada. If not for the National Capital Commission vetoing city plans decades ago, it could have ended up converted to a freeway.

And, as a UNESCO world heritage site, and the oldest continuously operating canal in North America, it also belongs to the world. Local heritage activists Friends of the Rideau are bending the feds' ear about Parks Canada budget cuts as a dereliction of our international responsibilities.

So many stewards, not one of whom can do anything about the weather.

Steve Collins lives in Ottawa. He might also be the guy behind you on the bus, pretending not to notice you're reading this. Act casual.

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
metroview

My past, put on trial, would make me look like an idiot, too.

The Jian Ghomeshi sexual-assault trial has become a battleground, all right. And not just inside the courtroom.

In an ongoing swarm of tweets, public onlookers have editorialized every comment broadcast from the testimony. It's a digital debate between two entrenched camps: those who are inclined to believe the women, and those who aren't; those who view the judicial process with distaste, and those who defend it. Following #Ghomeshi makes it obvious both sides made up their minds long before the trial began.

And while many pro-complainant voices have tweeted their dismay at the narrative that Marie Henein, Ghomeshi's lawyer, drew all week — of women enamoured with Ghomeshi, who continued to seek his attention after encounters that they would later claim involved assault, who were fame-hungry and opportunistic — let's not forget how those same women performed on the stand.

That is to say, remarkably well.

I might not have Lucy DeCoutere's fellatio-on-a-beer-bottle sense of humour (she sent such a photo to Ghomeshi), or the first complainant's instinct to email a man a bikini shot (though I know women who have) — but my own past, put on trial, would make me look like an idiot.

Especially — especially — when it comes to men.

These two witnesses seemed prepared for Henein's force. The first, perhaps the more combative, appeared ready for Henein to call her a liar. At times she seemed confused, but she fought where she could to reiterate the core of her complaint.

DeCoutere, the second witness, was quick to criticize her own reaction to the alleged assault, her calm giving way to a more tense demeanour as the pressure grew. She treated Henein's most damaging evidence as consistent with her own initial narrative: The beer-bottle photo, along with some other steamy correspondence, was her way of "placating" Ghomeshi, despite what she says he did. When breaks in the questioning came, DeCoutere could still crack a smile at the court staff. She seemed candid and forthcoming, if sometimes caught off guard.

This — how these two women behaved on the stand — may not change the views of the crowds of observers, hungrily consuming the play-by-play on Twitter.

And nothing could dissuade Marie Henein — hunter of all closet skeletons — from her efforts to shred the witnesses' credibility.

Judge William Horkins, however, will be the ultimate arbiter. And there's a chance he will be swayed by what he's seen in the witness box.

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Your essential daily news

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metro LIFE
Your essential daily news

Next stop, Oscars? Alejandro Iñárritu wins Directors Guild award for The Revenant

Being a super-saver can backfire. **Metro's finance guru Lesley-Anne Scorgie** says it's important to budget for small splurges so you don't end up raiding your savings for impulse buys

Yes, you can be too frugal

LESLEY-ANNE SCORGIE
metromoney

THE CHALLENGE: Metro's finance guru Lesley-Anne Scorgie is on a mission to transform the finances of two young women; Annick, who is heavily indebted, and Yolanda, who is on a mission to save a down payment. Each week, they take action to improve their financial fitness. Join the conversation #MetroMoneyMakeover @LesleyScorgie

THIS WEEK: Yolanda, a 27-year-old web communications specialist, is a super-saver. But, her ultra-frugal behaviour is leading to two undesirable outcomes. First, Yolanda's friends are getting annoyed because they think she's a cheapskate. Second, she's blowing her savings because she's depriving herself of regular intervals of fun like meals out and the occasional new pair of shoes.

NEXT WEEK: Annick learns how to take advantage of free money through her employer's RRSP program while kicking her debt in the butt.

LESLEY-ANNE SCORGIE IS A BESTSELLING AUTHOR AND FOUNDER OF MEVEST, A MONEY COACHING SERVICE FOR CANADIANS. FOLLOW HER @LESLEYSCORGIE

Yolanda has a bad habit of saving like a demon and then blowing her savings in one fell swoop.

To help Yolanda kick her binge-savings habit, her homework is to master her cash flow so that she will still be able to spend money on her favourite things. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO CANADA

THE STORY

I've helped many people get their finances into shape but Yolanda is by far the most frugal person I've met… even more than myself. In fact, she even asked our Metro photographer to pay her $3 bus fare for the photo shoot for this series.

That's nothing. Yolanda coupons her way through the weekly grocery specials, surfs the Internet on free Wi-Fi, grinds retailers for discounts and trades her friend dates at restaurants and bars for homemade tea and a stroll.

Minding her dollars and cents keeps her debt free and affords Yolanda the opportunity to save between $500 to $700 per month, all in an effort to build up a $25,000 down payment on a home within the next three years.

THE LESSON

As some Twitter followers have pointed out, Yolanda should be saving more given her ultra-frugal spending, low cost of living and $42,000 annual salary.

I thought the exact same thing until I discovered Yolanda has a bad habit of saving like a demon and then blowing her savings in one fell swoop on travel and her cute pooch. We are going to kick her binge savings habit to the curb.

Yolanda has some homework to do. To control her impulse spending, she has to master her cash flow, through budgeting (a plan for her money) and monthly spending summaries (the reconciliation of her budget to what actually happened). Once she masters this exercise, I estimate she can save an additional $250 per month toward her down payment and still spend money on her favourite things.

The other thing I worry about is that Yolanda is irritating her friends and family with her ultra-frugal behaviour. She'll need to strike a balance between saving, without being a cheapskate. So, she'll have to "up" the amounts of money she allocates to social activities and gifts in her budget.

$ MONEY

A surprise
Based on Yolanda's first cut at her monthly budget, she's got $435 left over. If she can stick to her budget, Yolanda can definitely save more!

Income	$2,400
Expenses:	
• Rent	$750
• Savings	$50
• RRSP	$150
• TFSA	$250
• Insurance	$25
• Groceries	$200
• Transit	$120
• Cell phone	$30
• Restaurants, entertainment, gifts	$150
• Personal care	$75
• Pet care	$85
• Charity	$80
Total Expenses	**$1,965**
Surplus	**$435**

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It's vintage bling for hot engagement rings

PROPOSALS

More couples opt for second-hand jewelry

Shriram Venkataramana had two months to look for an engagement ring for his girlfriend, Payal Uttam. He wanted to propose while they were on vacation in Bali, but he was overwhelmed just thinking about finding the perfect ring.

"It was very intimidating," Venkataramana says. "I had never been into a jewelry store, looking for a ring for someone else before, so I avoided it as long as I could."

A jewelry-savvy friend took Venkataramana to a Birks store last August, where they pinpointed rings that suited Uttam's style. "All four of them happened to be estate rings," Venkataramana says. "They were the unique ones — not your diamond solitaires."

So their next stop was Cynthia Findlay Antiques on Toronto's King St. W, which specializes in vintage jewelry. It was there Venkataramana found the perfect ring for his now wife.

Uttam is one of a growing number of brides sporting vintage rings on their fingers. Influenced by popular movies and TV series such as The Great Gatsby and Downton Abbey, Cynthia Findlay has seen increasing demand for her vintage engagement rings from the Victorian (1837-1901), Edwardian (1901-1910), Art Nouveau (1890-1918) and Art Deco (1920-1930) eras.

For Venkataramana, it came down to finding a ring that suited his artist girlfriend's style.

"Papal sketches, sculpts and draws. So I had to make sure what I got her was unique and one of a kind, but at the same time maintained the esthetic that she likes in her art."

Findlay had asked Venkataramana questions about Uttam's life, work and hobbies. "Originally she was recommending a lot of things that I didn't think were in line with Payal's esthetic," Venkataramana says. So Venkataramana showed Findlay photos on his phone of Uttam's freer, unconstrained style of art and sculpture work. "From then on, her recommendations were bang on."

With the help of Findlay and Uttam's sister, Venkataramana narrowed his options to two rings. The first was a Victorian piece from the 1880s that featured a large rose cut diamond. "It was a very rough, broad sweeps kind of cut."

The second was an Edwardian ring made in Belgium in 1905 — an oval diamond set in platinum with handcrafted filigree along the sides. "It's almost sculptural in the way it's made," Venkataramana says of the second ring, which he slipped onto Uttam's finger in a forested valley by the Ayung River in Bali.

Uttam fell in love with the intricate carvings and careful craftsmanship. "You can see the trace of a person's hand," Uttam says. "I was really impressed that he managed to find a ring that was so unusual. I hadn't seen a ring like this before."

> **I was really impressed that he managed to find a ring that was so unusual.**
>
> Payal Uttam says of her engagement ring

Findlay has been selling vintage jewelry and antiques for more than 35 years. Engagement rings in her shop start at $400 and run upwards of $20,000. Findlay acquires them through private sellers and works with independent gemologists to determine the ring's value.

"Pieces were handmade with tremendous pride, especially from 1915 to 1930," she says. "People were paid to do a beautiful job. They weren't paid to produce 42 rings from a mould."

Some jewelry shops have gemologists on staff, including Van Rijk Estate Jewellery and Watches, at Yonge St. and Eglinton Ave in midtown Toronto.

"We look at a ring, check the colour of the stone, the clarity, the weight, the era and the workmanship," says store manager and certified gemologist Pina Danyszczuk. "If it's a signed piece like Tiffany or Cartier then it's worth even more."

At Van Rijk, Danyszczuk says on average, the budget for young couples buying engagement rings runs between $5,000 and $15,000.

Gemological certifications also come with an appraisal value that customers can take to their insurance provider. "The replacement value is not what they paid but what they should insure it for," says Danyszczuk, who always notes on gemological certificates that vintage rings are not readily replaceable. "You have to insure it for much more than for what you would pay here for it because to reproduce the modern version of what they lost costs much more."

Engagement rings can be added as an extension of your homeowners or renters insurance in case of loss, theft or damage. "You should have it insured," says Danyszczuk. "If you're going to spend $15,000, you don't want to spend that again. You can sleep better at night." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

ART DECO

Made in the 1920s, art deco rings are characterized by elaborate designs and geometric motifs. "A lot of the art deco rings were flat because women wore gloves," explains Pina Danyszczuk, store manager at Van Rijk Estate Jewellery and Watches. Danyszczuk says that art deco is the most in-demand era of vintage rings at her store.

Diamond, sapphire and platinum ring, Van Rijk Estate Jewellery and Watches, $6,500.

OLD EUROPEAN CUT DIAMONDS

Before the advent of machine cutting technology, jewellers hand-cleaved each facet of the diamond which often resulted in a slightly imperfect shape. Also known as an Old Mine Cut, this style of diamond was popular in both the Edwardian and Victorian eras. They're the precursor of today's brilliant cut diamonds.

18K yellow gold and diamond solitaire ring, Canadian Estate Jewellers, $4,900.

COLOURED GEMSTONES

"A lot of couples say they're not interested in a diamond at all," says Cynthia Findlay, who has been selling vintage rings for over 35 years. Sapphires, rubies and emeralds are popular alternatives as engagement rings, although many vintage styles are accented with smaller diamonds in the design.

14K white gold, emerald and diamond ring, Cynthia Findlay Antiques, $13,000.

JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

When you can't swear on network TV

Timothy Hutton and Hope Davis are a married couple at odds in American Crime. CONTRIBUTED

THE SHOW: American Crime, Season Two, Episode Four (ABC)
THE MOMENT: The Black Screens

Steph (Hope Davis) and her husband Dan (Timothy Hutton) are arguing.

She wants him to quit his job — basketball coach at hoity-toity Leyland Academy in Indianapolis, Ind. — because the headmistress, Leslie (Felicity Huffman), is a snake. (Leslie asked Steph to encourage Dan to advise his players to lie about a sexual assault.) He doesn't want to quit.

The fight escalates. "What the f— do you want, do you want me to stand here and spew sh— so you can feel better about yourself?" Dan shouts. Interestingly, every time he says a starred word, for a nanosecond the sound drops out and the screen goes blank.

The most vital TV series right now deal with race, money or sex. American Crime weaves all three into a fascinating, infuriating tangle, set smack in America's heartland. The assault victim is a lower-class boy whom no one takes seriously. One of the accused is an upper-class kid whose parents (Regina King and Andre Benjamin) believe he's mistrusted because he's black. Leslie — Lady Macbeth in the principal's chair — calmly purrs sentences like, "We only have three black families that pay full tuition."

There's one thing that separates American Crime from cable shows, and it's not complexity of ideas. It's language: You still can't swear on ABC. Hence the blank screens. (Jarring at first, you quickly get used to them.)

American Crime is set in a ruthlessly competitive world. The broadcaster that airs it is trying to keep up, too.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

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The queen Bee

Samantha Bee is taking on the boys club with her new late-night series Full Frontal

For all the talk of how she's the only woman in the crowded late-night field, Samantha Bee sure has balls.

The long-time Daily Show correspondent's new series Full Frontal With Samantha Bee premieres Monday at 10:30 p.m. on the Comedy Network. If the prelaunch sketches posted on YouTube are any indication, Bee plans to shake up the boys club.

"I am female as f–," Bee declares in an edgy teaser for her new weekly series. The bit shows Bee in a gallery filled with portraits of late-night males Jimmy Fallon, Jimmy Kimmel, James Corden, Seth Meyers, John Oliver, David Letterman, even Carson Daly. A waiter offers her a large plate of meaty hors d'oeuvres. "You know what?" says Bee. "I think I'm kinda done with sausages."

It's no accident that the show is called Full Frontal. Bee plans to pull down plenty of pants on her series and make a lot of people uncomfortable.

The religious right is going to hate her. One of her promo clips showed fake footage of Republican presidential candidate Ted Cruz blasting pandas out of trees with a shotgun. Video of fellow candidate Marco Rubio praising Jesus at a GOP event prompted Bee to jump up and down proclaiming, "Yay, Jesus! Oh, he's so lucky he didn't live to see this debate."

If Fox News finds Stephen Colbert too partisan, they're going to freak over Full Frontal.

The Canadian-born comedian downplayed her killer Bee approach during the recent Television Critics Association press tour in Pasadena, Calif. Bee admitted to reporters that she sometimes held back during her record-setting 12-year tenure as a Daily Show contributor.

There were times when "I would have gone more deeply into a subject than others wanted to," she said, "and we'll have the opportunity to do that at Full Frontal."

Bee came to The Daily Show an outsider. Born and raised in Toronto, Bee picked up some theatrical training at George Brown College before helping to form the Toronto improv troupe the Atomic Fireballs. She became Jon Stewart's first female correspondent when she joined his New York-based series in 2003. She was also the first non-U.S. citizen correspondent.

She's pretaped one far-afield element already: a trip to Jordan.

"We are going to do a cultural orientation for Americans in order to better receive the Syrian refugees who are coming to this country," she says, pointing out, "They have to do an American cultural orientation in Jordan in order to be resettled."

While her series has trained journalists on staff, Bee says the focus will always be on the funny.

"We want to take stories that we don't think receive enough attention and stab them with the hot poker of comedy," she says.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

LATE NIGHT WOMEN

Joan Rivers
Rivers angered then-reigning talk-show king Johnny Carson in 1986 by ditching her gig as permanent Tonight Show guest host and launching Late Show on Fox. Two tumultuous years and a booking war later it was cancelled.

Chelsea Handler
Launched in 2007, Chelsea Lately survived seven seasons at E! Handler's series was distinguished with a roundtable panel and often had a randy Howard Stern-like vibe.

Wanda Sykes
Fox again tried to add a female voice to late night in 2009. Sykes' stinging standup wit, however, did not stand up over a series haul, even in weekend doses.

metro SPORT

NBA MVP Stephen Curry banged the "Keep Pounding" drum on Sunday for the Panthers, the Golden State Warriors guard's favourite team

Highlight-reel goal pushes Caps to win

NHL

Ovie milestone also huge, as Washington edges Philly

Matt Niskanen scored a goal that wowed the Washington Capitals' bench, and Alex Ovechkin scored an atypical goal that put him in elite company in hockey history.

Behind a highlight-reel goal from Niskanen and Ovechkin's 30th of the season, the Capitals rallied to beat the Philadelphia Flyers 3-2 in their traditional Super Bowl Sunday matchup. Ovechkin joined Wayne Gretzky and Mike Gartner as the only players in NHL history to score 30 or more goals in each of their first 11 seasons.

"It's not surprising, and he's going to probably do it another time or two before he's done," coach Barry Trotz said. "Consistency, that's a part of greatness."

Ovechkin deflected Karl Alzner's point shot with his stick in front of Flyers goaltender Steve Mason for his 30th in his 49th game of the season. That tied the score in the second period after a choppy start for the Capitals.

"You just have to do what you have to do," Ovechkin said. "It was not pretty goal, but it was a really important goal for us. I'll take it."

Alex Ovechkin has scored at least 30 goals in each of his 11 NHL seasons.
NICK WASS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SUNDAY in Washington

3	2
CAPITALS	FLYERS

The NHL-leading Capitals will take whatever offence they can get right now, as they're mired in a season-worst 0-for-17 power-play drought. Another 0-for-2 performance Sunday hurt way less because they killed off all five Philadelphia power plays.

Goaltender Braden Holtby was a big part of that as he made eight of his 33 saves on the penalty kill. Those in front of him, namely Niskanen, Alzner and forwards Brooks Laich and Mike Richards, deserved some credit, too, as a 5-on-3 penalty kill changed the momentum of the game.

With all things even on special teams, the Capitals got two of their goals from defenceman. Dmitry Orlov's fifth of the season came just 1:09 after Ovechkin scored, but it was Niskanen's dipsy-do moves through traffic that got the bulk of the attention.

Five minutes into the third period, Niskanen went end to end, carving through Flyers defenders Michael Del Zotto and Shayne Gostisbehere before beating Mason short side.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

OTTAWA 6, TORONTO 1

Senators get things right in a big way

The Ottawa Senators needed desperately for something to go right. Pretty much everything did Saturday.

Curtis Lazar had the first two-goal game of his career and Erik Karlsson had four assists as the Ottawa Senators embarrassed the Toronto Maple Leafs 6-1 at Canadian Tire Centre.

Lazar's second goal of the night came at 2:27 of the third period and gave Ottawa a 6-0 lead. A little less than two minutes earlier Mark Stone had given them a 5-0 lead when he beat Jonathan Bernier high on the short side.

Erik Karlsson
GETTY IMAGES

Zach Smith, Mika Zibanejad and Bobby Ryan also scored for the Senators (24-23-6), who got 26 saves from Craig Anderson.

P.A. Parenteau of the Leafs (19-23-9) scored at 3:25 of the third to break the shutout.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Habs prevail in shootout

Sven Andrighetto was the only player to score in a five-round shootout as the Montreal Canadiens defeated the Carolina Hurricanes 2-1 on Sunday afternoon in Montreal.

Ben Scrivens stopped all five Carolina shooters, including star centre Eric Staal on the final attempt.

Max Pacioretty scored in regulation time for Montreal (26-24-4).

Jeff Skinner scored for Carolina (24-21-9).
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Islanders pound on Oilers

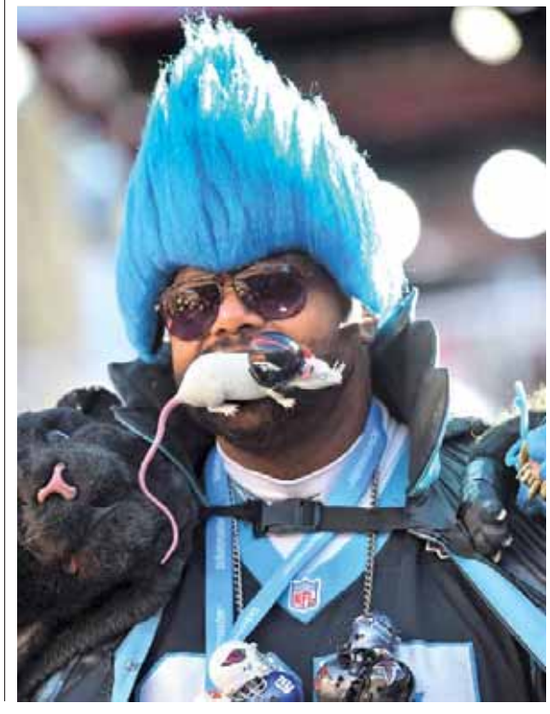
Kyle Okposo scored a hat trick as the New York Islanders routed the Edmonton Oilers 8-1 on Sunday in Brooklyn.

Thomas Greiss made 30 saves for the Islanders (27-18-6), who moved within three points of the Rangers for second-place in the Metropolitan Division.

Johnny Boychuck, John Tavares and Nikolay Kulemin scored in the opening period, chasing former Islanders netminder Anders Nilsson. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Super Bowl 50 in pictures

The Big One. Newly-named NFL most valuable player Cam Newton and veteran QB legend Peyton Manning faced off on U.S. sports' biggest stage on Sunday. About 70,000 attended Super Bowl 50 at San Francisco's Levi's Stadium and hundreds of millions watched across the world. Go to metronews.ca for coverage of the big game. PHOTOS BY GETTY IMAGES



Arsenal back in business

PREMIER LEAGUE

Gunners top Cherries after 4 games without win

Arsenal ended a four-game winless run by scoring quick-fire goals to beat Bournemouth 2-0 on Sunday, rising to third in the Premier League.

Mesut Ozil tucked away the opener in the 23rd minute for his first goal since netting in December's reverse fixture against Bournemouth. And only 88 seconds later, Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain struck to end a 17-month wait for a Premier League goal.

When the Gunners beat Bournemouth on Dec. 28 they had moved to the summit but they have fallen off the pace during a poor run since.

Leicester is now in front with Tottenham and Arsenal five points behind and separated by only goal difference. Manchester City dropped to fourth after losing 3-1 to Leicester on Saturday.

Next Sunday sees City host Tottenham and Arsenal take on Leicester.

"In one week Leicester has beaten Liverpool and Man City," Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger said. "So that means suddenly they become the favourite in the league. That makes our game on Sunday a very big one.

"I think we needed to win the game (against Bournemouth). I do not want to be too dramatic with making statements. A football game away from home in the Premier League for anybody is difficult to win. We had to win. We won."

Bournemouth's task is survival. In its first season in the top flight, the south-coast club is five points above the relegation zone.

"We were slow out the blocks today," Bournemouth manager Eddie Howe said. "That's unlike us and when you give players of their quality that time on the ball they will punish you.

"The quality of the goals, especially the second one from a tight angle, made it difficult for us. After that we were unable to find a goal that would get us back into it and put them under pressure."

In London on Sunday, a second stalemate of the season between Chelsea and Manchester United saw the fallen powers slip further from relevance in this unusual Premier League season.

The 1-1 draw at Stamford Bridge did little to help either team.

United remains lodged in fifth and the gap to the fourth Champions League place has grown to six points, adding to the sense of uncertainty surrounding the future of manager Louis van Gaal, despite some promising signs from the team.

Chelsea remains in the lower reaches of the standings closer to the relegation zone than its usual place among the top four elite.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mesut Ozil pounds in a 23rd-minute goal on Sunday in Bournemouth, England. JOHN WALTON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DIVISION TABLE

	GP	W-D-L	Pts.
Leicester	25	15-8-2	53
Tottenham	25	13-9-3	48
Arsenal	25	14-6-5	48
Man. City	25	14-5-6	47
Man. United	25	11-8-6	41
West Ham	25	10-9-6	39
S'hampton	25	10-7-8	37
Everton	25	8-11-6	35
Liverpool	25	9-8-8	35
Watford	25	9-6-10	33
Stoke City	25	9-6-10	33
Crys. Palace	25	9-5-11	32
Chelsea	25	7-9-9	30
West Brom	25	7-8-10	29
B'mouth	25	7-7-11	28
Swansea	25	6-9-10	27
Newcastle	25	6-6-13	24
Norwich	25	6-5-14	23
Sunderland	25	5-5-15	20
Aston Villa	25	3-7-15	16

Champions League
Europa League
Relegation

IN BRIEF

Barca sets new unbeaten record at 28 games

Barcelona did just enough to defeat last-place Levante 2-0 on Sunday and tie its all-time record of 28 consecutive games without a loss.

Barcelona took the lead with an own goal by Levante defender David Navarro in the 21st minute and sealed the victory with an injury-time score by Luis Suarez to match the unbeaten streak set by Pep Guardiola's team in the 2010-11 season.

The result also kept Barcelona atop the Spanish league with 54 points.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Willet wins Dubai Classic with 15-foot birdie putt

Danny Willett of England sank a birdie putt from 15 feet on the final hole to win the Dubai Desert Classic title by one shot on Sunday.

Danny Willett GETTY IMAGES

Fellow Englishman Andy Sullivan (68) and Spain's Rafael Cabrera-Bello (69) set the clubhouse pace for overnight leader Willett, who protected his slim advantage with a 3-under round of 69.

The two pre-tournament favourites — Rory McIlroy (65) and Henrik Stenson (66) — finished tied for sixth on 273.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

CP3 resilient as Clips top Heat

Chris Paul had the worst possible start to his shooting day.

His finish, however, was perfect.

Paul's consecutive three-pointers in the final minutes were daggers to a Miami comeback, and his game-high 22 points helped the Los Angeles Clippers hang on to beat the Heat 100-93 on Sunday.

"I kept shooting it," Paul said, "because sooner or later it had to go in."

J.J. Redick scored 14 points, Wesley Johnson had 10 and DeAndre Jordan and Cole Aldrich grabbed 11 rebounds each for the Clippers, who won despite a 1-for-15 start from the field and swept the two-game season series with Miami.

"That was a team win because nobody really had it going," Clippers coach Doc Rivers said. "But our defence really had it going all game."

Chris Bosh, Dwyane Wade and Goran Dragic all scored 17 points for Miami. Luol Deng added 15 points for the Heat, and Hassan Whiteside finished with 10 points and 10 rebounds off the bench.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Clippers guard Chris Paul THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MORE SCORES

Nuggets 101, Knicks 96

Rookie Emmanuel Mudiay scored nine of his 15 points during a decisive fourth-quarter run, and the Denver Nuggets beat the fading New York Knicks 101-96 on Sunday.

Celtics 128, Kings 119

Avery Bradley scored 25 points, Isiah Thomas had 22 and the Boston Celtics held off the Sacramento Kings 128-119 on Sunday for their ninth win in 10 games.

Jared Sullinger matched his season high with 21 points

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RECIPE Black Bean Soup

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

Start your week off right with this zesty, flavourful black bean soup. It's so rich and creamy you'll forget you're having a healthy, fibre-rich dinner.

Ready in
Prep time: 10 minutes
Total time: 45 minutes
Serves 6

Ingredients
- 1 Tbsp olive oil
- 1 onion, chopped
- 3 cloves of garlic, minced
- 1 bunch cilantro, washed well, stems minced (keep leaves for garnish)
- 2 carrots, chopped small
- 2 stalks of celery, chopped
- 1 tsp ground cumin
- 2 x 19 oz can of black beans, rinsed
- 1 L low-sodium chicken stock
- Salt and pepper
- Garnish: cilantro, avocado, yogurt or sour cream, salsa

Directions
1. In a heavy bottomed, large pot, place olive oil, onion, garlic, cilantro stalks, carrots and celery and allow it all to soften slightly over medium heat, about 5 minutes. Add cumin and cook for another minute or two.
2. Add rinsed beans and stock. Reduce heat to low, allow soup to simmer, then cover for 30 to 40 minutes. Stir every 5 minutes or so, to be sure nothing is sticking to the bottom.
3. Take soup off the heat and allow to cool a bit. Use either a blender to purée in small batches, or use an immersion blender.
4. Serve with plain yogurt, sour cream, avocado, salsa and cilantro.

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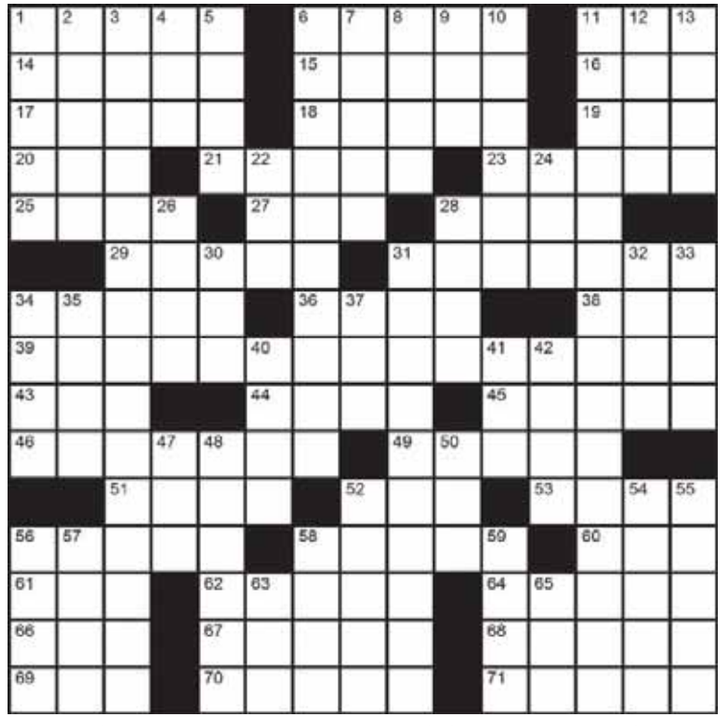
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Fancy-hatted English racecourse
6. Retro-style eatery
11. Prof's helpers
14. Flat-bottomed vessels
15. Previously, in ye olden days
16. 'Ready In Time': New album/song-of-the-same-name by Canadian singer Matt __
17. Sweden's money
18. Boast
19. Q. "Is the alphabet's 15th letter known __ '_'? A. "Indeed."
20. "Cockroach!"
21. River of Germany
23. Shoelace tip
25. "Galveston" songwriter Jimmy
27. NB's ocean
28. Key __ pie
29. Zing
31. Groups of five
34. ID card component
36. Particular woodwind
38. 'Terri' tail
39. Manitoba: Wildlife Management Area located 30 minutes north of Winnipeg where visitors can experience wetlands, habitats, trails and wildlife that includes about 300 species of birds: 3 wds.
43. Latin roe
44. Pull at
45. Sir Guinness, and others
46. News agency
49. Vancouver-born actress Ms. Okuma
51. Caesar's clothing
52. Figure skater Midori
53. Hullabaloos
56. "On the __ hand..."
58. Songbook standard: "Me __ __ Shadow"
60. Rapscallion
61. __-expressionism (Art movement)
62. Put an __ (Halt): 2 wds.
64. The Yokums family member
66. Road ride
67. Prefix meaning 'Lizard'
68. __ cum laude
69. Initials-sharers of Johnny Carson's sidekick
70. Maintain a sheep's coat
71. Spirited in attitude

DOWN
1. Lopsided
2. Loose rock at a cliff's base
3. Food Network Canada chefs, at times: 2 wds.
4. Oprah Winfrey's TV network
5. Bygone sovereign
6. "SCTV" alum born in St. Catharines, ON: 2 wds.
7. "__ to see the point?" (Why?)
8. 'Proper' word?
9. 'West' suffix
10. Keep back
11. They foretell the future: 2 wds.
12. Basilica part
13. Parking place
22. Occurrence, poetically
24. 0 Meridian letters
26. All two
28. Potato __ Soup
30. Bygone bird
31. One might be used for accessing a butler's pantry: 2 wds.
32. __-shaped, like a saucer
33. Learning insts.
34. "__ Side of Town" by Johnny Rivers
35. Possess
37. Good: French
40. "__ Breckinridge" (1970)
41. Egyptian __ (Cat breed)
42. __-Seltzer
47. Lake temperature tester
48. Go forth
50. __ de guerre
52. 'I' of IV
54. Signs
55. Ocean mist
56. __ and for all (Finally)
57. Calgary Flames
58. __ __ (Together, in music)
59. Tuber types
63. "Nope."
65. Ewe's exclamation!

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
Don't believe what others tell you just because they claim to be in the know. The world is full of people who don't understand even the basics of what they're talking about.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Important people will do things for you today. If you want to move up in the world you'll soon get your chance. A new moon in the career area of your chart will make it easy for you to make a good impression.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Working and earning a living are important but there are BIG questions that need to be answered, the type that can only be answered by looking within. Time to do some thinking.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
You cannot let go of a thought or an idea and it is driving you crazy. Today's new moon will help you find a way to apply it in the real world and, once done, it won't bother you again.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Love is in the air today. Make an effort to be positive about a relationship and what happens later in the week won't hit you so hard. Think only good things about the people who mean most to you emotionally.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Matters of the head and matters of the heart will clash today, so draw up a schedule that enables you to focus on one thing at a time. Try to tackle two or more things at the same time.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Today's new moon dares you to break out of the mental and emotional straitjacket you've made for yourself. The reason you haven't reached your goal is because you fear you don't have what it takes. But you do!

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Some people you like and some you don't and it will always be that way. Don't feel you have to pretend that someone who rubs you up the wrong way is your friend.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
There are a lot of tall stories making the rounds and the only way to separate fact from fiction is to ignore what people tell you and follow your instincts. Your inner voice knows.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Don't worry about your money situation because there are more important things for you to think about. Best of all, today's new moon will help you find ways to earn more.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Today's new moon in your birth sign will give you a boost of confidence. Anything is possible for you now — yes anything — so aim as high as you can and then go higher still.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Why are you hesitating? It's not like you to think twice before rushing in but you want to know what lies ahead before making your move. This time you could be right, there may be danger around the corner.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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FRIDAY'S ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

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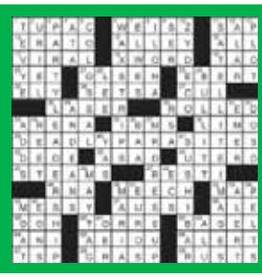

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2	9	1	3	5	6	7	4	8
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8	3	2	5	6	1	9	7	4

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